Ø 002

Patent Atty. Dkt. No. AUS92001031US1 (IBM/0014) 5C

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

§

888

9000000

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

Dwip N. Banerjee

SERIAL NO. 09/923,573

FILED: August 7, 2001

FOR: Method for Collective Decision-

Making

EXAMINER: Abel Jalil, Neveen

GROUP ART UNIT: 2175

Via Facsimile: 703.746.7239

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION 37 C.F.R. 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the Commissioner for Patents to the fax number indicated on the Office Action, to the attention of the named Examiner, on the date

Mail Stop Response Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED MAY 9, 2003

Applicant files this Response to the Office Action dated May 9, 2003, and having a three month shortened statutory period for response set to expire on August 9, 2003. Please consider the amendments and remarks on the pages that follow.